

H1  
22. (Thrice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and  
a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member.

H2  
25. (Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the expandable member has a first configuration to allow for insertion of the assembly into a lumen in the body.

H3  
28. (Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

H4  
29. (Twice Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

30. (Twice Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

H5  
31. (Amended) The assembly of claim 30, wherein the portion of the blood vessel that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage folds back over a first end of the expandable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

32. (Amended) The assembly of claim 31, wherein the extending portion of the blood vessel folds back to form a sleeve.

H6  
33. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,  
wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the expandable member and forms both an internal lining of the expandable member and an external cover of the expandable member.

34. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

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a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,  
wherein a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the expandable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the expandable member, and wherein the first and second ends of the tissue both fold back over respective ends of the expandable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the expandable member to form an external cover of the expandable member.

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36. (Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the blood vessel comprises a tubular structure.

37. (Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the blood vessel comprises a body tissue.

38. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,  
wherein the tissue comprises a body tissue,  
wherein the body tissue comprises a blood vessel.

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41. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,  
wherein the tissue comprises a tubular structure,  
wherein the tubular structure comprises a mammalian blood vessel.

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69 43. (Amended) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the blood vessel is secured to the expandable member.

44. (Amended) The assembly of claim 43, wherein the blood vessel is stitched to the expandable member.

45. (Amended) The assembly of claim 43, wherein the blood vessel is glued to the expandable member.

46. (Amended) The assembly of claim 43, wherein the blood vessel is welded to the expandable member.

47. (Amended) The assembly of claim 43, wherein a first portion of the blood vessel is fixed to a second portion of the blood vessel to secure the blood vessel to the expandable member.

48. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and

a delivery sheath which encompasses the expandable member and the tissue.

51. (Thrice Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

providing a blood vessel adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member.

53. (Amended) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of placing the blood vessel adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

54. (Amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

55. (Amended) The method of claim 54, further comprising the step of placing the blood vessel so that a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

56. (Amended) The method of claim 55, further comprising the step of folding the portion of the blood vessel that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the expandable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

57. (Amended) The method of claim 56, further comprising the step of folding the extending portion of the blood vessel back to form a sleeve.

58. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a portion of the tissue extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage; and

folding the portion of the tissue that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the expandable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the expandable member and forms both an internal lining of the expandable member and an external cover of the expandable member.

59. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,  
wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage,  
further comprising the steps of:

placing the tissue so that a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the expandable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the expandable member; and

folding back the first and second ends of the tissue over respective ends of the expandable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the expandable member to form an external cover of the expandable member.

61. (Amended) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of securing the blood vessel to the expandable member.

62. (Amended) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of stitching the blood vessel to the expandable member.

63. (Amended) The method of claim 51, further comprising the step of gluing the blood vessel to the expandable member.

64. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and  
welding the tissue to the expandable member.

65. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and

fixing a first portion of the tissue to a second portion of the tissue to secure the tissue to the expandable member.

68. (Thrice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member.

71. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the deformable member has a first configuration to allow for insertion of the assembly into a lumen in the body.

74. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

75. (Twice Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

76. (Twice Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

77. (Amended) The assembly of claim 76, wherein the portion of the blood vessel that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage folds back over a first end of the deformable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

78. (Amended) The assembly of claim 77, wherein the extending portion of the blood vessel folds back to form a sleeve.

79. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the deformable member and forms both an internal lining of the deformable member and an external cover of the deformable member.

H19  
G19  
80. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and  
a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,  
wherein a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the deformable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the deformable member, and wherein the first and second ends of the tissue both fold back over respective ends of the deformable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the deformable member to form an external cover of the deformable member.

G20  
H207  
81. (Amended) The assembly of claim 80, wherein the first and second ends of the tissue are secured together, secured to the deformable member, or secured to a portion of the tissue adjacent the interior surface of the deformable member.

82. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the blood vessel comprises a tubular structure.

83. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the blood vessel comprises a body tissue.

84. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and  
a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,  
wherein the tissue comprises a body tissue,  
wherein the body tissue comprises a blood vessel.

G21  
H21  
87. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

62  
H21  
a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,  
wherein the tissue comprises a tubular structure,  
wherein the tubular structure comprises a mammalian blood vessel.

89. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, wherein the blood vessel is secured to the deformable member.

90. (Amended) The assembly of claim 89, wherein the blood vessel is stitched to the deformable member.

91. (Amended) The assembly of claim 89, wherein the blood vessel is glued to the deformable member.

92. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,  
wherein the tissue is secured to the deformable member,  
wherein the tissue is welded to the deformable member.

93. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body passageway comprising:  
a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,  
wherein the tissue is secured to the deformable member,  
wherein a first portion of the tissue is fixed to a second portion of the tissue to secure the tissue to the deformable member.

94. (Amended) The assembly of claim 68, further comprising a delivery sheath which facilitates insertion of the deformable member and the blood vessel into the body.

96. (Four Times Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:



623 providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

providing a blood vessel adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member.

98. (Amended) The method of claim 96, further comprising the step of placing the blood vessel adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

99. (Amended) The method of claim 96, wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

100. (Amended) The method of claim 99, further comprising the step of placing the blood vessel so that a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

101. (Amended) The method of claim 100, further comprising the step of folding the portion of the blood vessel that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the deformable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

102. (Amended) The method of claim 101, further comprising the step of folding the extending portion of the blood vessel back to form a sleeve.

103. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a portion of the tissue extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage; and

folding the portion of the tissue that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the deformable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the deformable member and forms both an internal lining of the deformable member and an external cover of the deformable member.

104. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the deformable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the deformable member; and

folding back the first and second ends of the tissue over respective ends of the deformable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the deformable member to form an external cover of the deformable member.

106. (Amended) The method of claim 96, further comprising the step of securing the blood vessel to the deformable member.

107. (Amended) The method of claim 96, further comprising the step of stitching the blood vessel to the deformable member.

108. (Amended) The method of claim 96, further comprising the step of gluing the blood vessel to the deformable member.

109. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member; and

welding the tissue to the deformable member.

110. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member; and

fixing a first portion of the tissue to a second portion of the tissue to secure the tissue to the deformable member.

113. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable stent that is expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a blood vessel configured to avoid exposure of the expandable stent to circulating body fluids when the assembly is inserted into the body.

114. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable stent that is deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a blood vessel configured to avoid exposure of the deformable stent to circulating body fluids when the assembly is inserted into the body.

117. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body to form a portion of a body passageway comprising:

an expandable member that is expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the expandable member,

wherein the assembly is constructed such that the assembly forms the portion of the body passageway after expansion of the expandable member.

121. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an interior surface of the expandable member.

122. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

H28  
123. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, wherein the expandable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

124. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, wherein the expandable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

125. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, wherein the blood vessel is secured to the expandable member.

126. (Amended) The assembly of claim 117, further comprising a delivery sheath which facilitates insertion of the expandable member and the blood vessel into the body.

129. (Twice Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body to form a portion of a body passageway comprising:

H29  
a deformable member that is deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the deformable member,

wherein the assembly is constructed such that the assembly forms the portion of the body passageway after deformation of the deformable member.

H30  
133. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an interior surface of the deformable member.

134. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, wherein the blood vessel is disposed adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

135. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, wherein the deformable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

136. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, wherein the deformable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

H5  
G30  
137. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, wherein the blood vessel is secured to the deformable member.

138. (Amended) The assembly of claim 129, further comprising a delivery sheath which facilitates insertion of the deformable member and the blood vessel into the body.

H31  
G31  
141. (Amended) A method of forming a portion of a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member;  
providing a blood vessel adjacent to the expandable member;  
inserting the expandable member and the blood vessel into the body; and  
expanding the expandable member subsequent to inserting the expandable member and the blood vessel into the body.

G32  
H32  
144. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the step of providing the blood vessel includes providing the blood vessel adjacent to an interior surface of the expandable member.

145. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the step of providing the blood vessel includes providing the blood vessel adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member.

146. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the expandable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

147. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the expandable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

148. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the step of expanding the expandable member causes the expandable member to assume an expanded configuration, and wherein the expandable member in the expanded configuration and the blood vessel form the portion of the body passageway.

149. (Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein the step of expanding the expandable member includes expanding the blood vessel.

C33  
H33  
151. (Amended) The method of claim 141, further comprising the step of securing the blood vessel to the expandable member.

152. (Amended) The method of claim 141, further comprising the step of providing a delivery sheath to facilitate the insertion of the expandable member and the blood vessel into the body.

153. (Amended) A method of forming a portion of a body passageway comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member;

providing a blood vessel adjacent to the deformable member;

inserting the deformable member and the blood vessel into the body; and

deforming the deformable member subsequent to inserting the deformable member and the blood vessel into the body such that the deformable member maintains a deformed configuration.

C34  
H34  
156. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the step of providing the blood vessel includes providing the blood vessel adjacent to an interior surface of the deformable member.

157. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the step of providing the blood vessel includes providing the blood vessel adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member.

158. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the deformable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein the blood vessel is at least as long as the longitudinal passage.

159. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the deformable member has an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, and wherein a portion of the blood vessel extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage.

160. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the deformable member in the deformed configuration and the blood vessel form the portion of the body passageway.

161. (Amended) The method of claim 153, wherein the step of deforming the deformable member includes deforming the blood vessel.

163. (Amended) The method of claim 153, further comprising the step of securing the blood vessel to the deformable member.

164. (Amended) The method of claim 153, further comprising the step of providing a delivery sheath to facilitate the insertion of the deformable member and the blood vessel into the body.

165. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable to an extent necessary to secure the expandable member relative to a body passageway; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member.

166. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable to an extent necessary to secure the expandable member relative to a body passageway; and

providing a blood vessel adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member.

167. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable to an extent necessary to secure the deformable member relative to a body passageway; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member.

168. (Amended) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable to an extent necessary to secure the deformable member relative to a body passageway; and

providing a blood vessel adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member.

169. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable stent that is expandable to an extent necessary to secure the expandable stent relative to a body passageway; and

a blood vessel configured to avoid exposure of the expandable stent to circulating body fluids when the assembly is inserted into the body.

170. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable stent that is deformable to an extent necessary to secure the deformable stent relative to a body passageway; and

a blood vessel configured to avoid exposure of the deformable stent to circulating body fluids when the assembly is inserted into the body.

171. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body to form a portion of a body passageway comprising:

an expandable member that is expandable to an extent necessary to secure the expandable member relative to the body passageway; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the expandable member,

wherein the assembly is constructed such that the assembly forms the portion of the body passageway after expansion of the expandable member.

172. (Amended) An assembly for insertion into a body to form a portion of a body passageway comprising:

a deformable member that is deformable to an extent necessary to secure the deformable member relative to the body passageway; and

a blood vessel disposed adjacent to the deformable member,

wherein the assembly is constructed such that the assembly forms the portion of the body passageway after deformation of the deformable member.

Please add the following claims:

173. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:



an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the expandable member and forms both an internal lining of the expandable member and an external cover of the expandable member.

174. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the expandable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the expandable member, and wherein the first and second ends of the tissue both fold back over respective ends of the expandable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the expandable member to form an external cover of the expandable member.

175. (New) The assembly of claim 174, wherein the first and second ends of the tissue are secured together, secured to the expandable member, or secured to a portion of the tissue adjacent the interior surface of the expandable member.

176. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue comprises a body tissue,

wherein the body tissue comprises a blood vessel.

177. (New) The assembly of claim 176, wherein the blood vessel comprises at least one of a recently extracted blood vessel and a thawed blood vessel which had been previously extracted and frozen.

178. (New) The assembly of claim 176, wherein the blood vessel comprises a vein.

179. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member, wherein the tissue comprises a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure comprises a mammalian blood vessel.

180. (New) The assembly of claim 179, wherein the mammalian blood vessel comprises a human blood vessel.

181. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and

a delivery sheath which facilitates insertion of the expandable member and the tissue into the body.

182. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a portion of the tissue extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage; and

folding the portion of the tissue that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the expandable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the expandable member and forms both an internal lining of the expandable member and an external cover of the expandable member.

183. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member,

wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage,

further comprising the steps of:

placing the tissue so that a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the expandable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the expandable member; and

folding back the first and second ends of the tissue over respective ends of the expandable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the expandable member to form an external cover of the expandable member.

184. (New) The method of claim 183, further comprising the step of securing the first and second ends of the tissue together, to the expandable member, or to a portion of the tissue adjacent the interior surface of the expandable member.

185. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and  
welding the tissue to the expandable member.

186. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing an expandable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the expandable member being expandable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the expandable member; and  
fixing a first portion of the tissue to a second portion of the tissue to secure the tissue to the expandable member.

187. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the deformable member and forms both an internal lining of the deformable member and an external cover of the deformable member.

188. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member,

wherein a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the deformable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the deformable member, and wherein

the first and second ends of the tissue both fold back over respective ends of the deformable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the deformable member to form an external cover of the deformable member.

189. (New) The assembly of claim 188, wherein the first and second ends of the tissue are secured together, secured to the deformable member, or secured to a portion of the tissue adjacent the interior surface of the deformable member.

190. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue comprises a body tissue, wherein the body tissue comprises a blood vessel.

191. (New) The assembly of claim 190, wherein the blood vessel comprises at least one of a recently extracted blood vessel and a thawed blood vessel which had been previously extracted and frozen.

192. (New) The assembly of claim 190, wherein the blood vessel comprises a vein.

193. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue comprises a tubular structure, wherein the tubular structure comprises a mammalian blood vessel.

194. (New) The assembly of claim 193, wherein the mammalian blood vessel comprises a human blood vessel.

195. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

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a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue is secured to the deformable member, wherein the tissue is welded to the deformable member.

196. (New) An assembly for insertion into a body comprising:

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a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration; and

a tissue disposed adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue is secured to the deformable member, wherein a first portion of the tissue is fixed to a second portion of the tissue to secure the tissue to the deformable member.

197. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a portion of the tissue extends beyond at least one end of the longitudinal passage; and

folding the portion of the tissue that extends beyond the end of the longitudinal passage back over a first end of the deformable member to a position adjacent to an exterior surface of the deformable member,

wherein the tissue has a length about twice as long as the deformable member and forms both an internal lining of the deformable member and an external cover of the deformable member.

198. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member, wherein the tissue is at least as long as the longitudinal passage;

placing the tissue so that a first end of the tissue extends beyond a first end of the deformable member and a second end of the tissue extends beyond a second end of the deformable member; and

folding back the first and second ends of the tissue over respective ends of the deformable member to meet about midway between the first and second ends of the deformable member to form an external cover of the deformable member.

199. (New) The method claim of 198, further comprising the step of securing the first and second ends of the tissue together, to the deformable member, or to a portion of the tissue adjacent the interior surface of the deformable member.

200. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of:

providing a deformable member having an interior surface defining a longitudinal passage, the deformable member being deformable from a first geometrically stable configuration to a second geometrically stable configuration;

providing a tissue adjacent to the interior surface of the deformable member; and welding the tissue to the deformable member.

201. (New) A method of preparing a graft prosthesis for insertion into a body comprising the steps of: